

Fiscal Services Division

Legislative Services Agency

Fiscal Note

SF 2216 – Core Curriculum (LSB 6127 H8432)

Analyst: Robin Madison (Phone: (515) 281-5270) (robin.madison@legis.state.ia.us)

Fiscal Note Version – Amendment H-8432 to SF 2216 **REVISED**

Requested by Representative Scott Raecker

Description

Amendment H-8432 to SF 2216 (Core Curriculum) amends Section 256.7(28), Code Supplement 2007, that requires the State Board of Education to adopt a set of core content standards for grades K-12. The Amendment requires the Board to adopt *minimum* core content standards and requires school districts and accredited nonpublic schools to include them in any locally developed content standards through June 30, 2012. The Amendment further requires the State Board to adopt more rigorous core content standards for grades Pre-K through 12 by July 1, 2010, and requires school districts and nonpublic schools to include those standards in any locally developed content standards by July 1, 2012.

The Amendment requires the State Board to convene a task force to recommend rigorous core content standards, after reviewing the National Assessment of Education Progress standards, those adopted by other states, and those identified as best practices by recognized experts. The Board must submit the proposed standards for external independent review prior to adoption.

The Amendment specifies subject areas that must be addressed by the content standards; specifies that each school district must align local curriculum, instructional materials, and classroom instruction to the standards and submit evidence of such alignment; and specifies that a student can not be denied instruction consistent with the more rigorous standards.

The Amendment requires that the task force also develop rigorous performance standards for grades K-6 in reading, writing, mathematics, science, social studies, and art and for grades 7-12 in English, language arts, mathematics, science, history, social studies, and art. The task force must submit performance standard recommendations to the Board and the General Assembly by January 2, 2012.

Background

Although the Amendment does not speak to development or implementation of assessments, federal law requires the development of new assessments for reading, math, and science in grades 3-8 and 11 when content standards are modified. The Department has indicated that it is necessary to develop new assessments at all grade levels in order to measure performance on a spectrum. It is also necessary to develop two forms of each assessment in the initial phase of test development.

Assumptions

The expenses of the task force to develop core content standards in FY 2009 are estimated to be \$200,000. The task force expenses to recommend performance standards in FY 2012 are estimated to be \$200,000.

The cost for an external review of the content standards by an independent nonprofit educational organization prior to adoption is estimated to be \$1.6 million, based upon a cost of \$250,000 per content area.

The cost for development of two forms assessment in reading, math, and science for each of 13 grade levels is \$58.5 million per year for two years. This includes the following assumptions:

- The cost of the first form of each assessment is \$1.0 million.
- The cost of the second form of each assessment is \$500,000
- The assessments would be developed over two years, FY 2010 and FY 2011, at an average cost of \$1.5 million per assessment.

Fiscal Impact

The fiscal impact of Amendment H-8432 to SF 2216 is estimated to be an increase in General Fund expenditures of \$200,000 in FY 2009, \$60.1 million in FY 2010, \$58.5 million in FY 2011, and \$200,000 in FY 2012.

Source

Department of Education

/s/ Holly M. Lyons

April 9, 2008

The fiscal note and correctional impact statement for this bill was prepared pursuant to Joint Rule 17 and pursuant to Section 2.56, Code of Iowa. Data used in developing this fiscal note and correctional impact statement are available from the Fiscal Services Division, Legislative Services Agency to members of the Legislature upon request.
